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To:

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Subject: Community advisory groups, Technical Assistance Grants and other community interests

Bridget and Chuck,

Jennifer Opila asked me to follow up with you on your questions.

As you know, EPA is the lead agency at VB/I70 Superfund Site, and works together with CDPHE and Denver in following the Superfund process. The VB-I70 CAG was supported operationally and initiated by Denver for the surrounding communities of VB/I-70 OU2, to inform the communities of the infrastructure project which impacts OU2. Now that the portion of the infrastructure project in OU2 has been completed, Denver felt that there was not enough information/data being created to maintain monthly associated meetings. The CAG may disagree, but that was Denver's decision. The state and EPA are still available to be points of reference in helping the CAG with questions you may have pertaining to the Superfund Operable Units of VB/I-70, and the process.

Community Advisory Groups are not exclusively associated with Superfund Sites. In fact, CAGs can be formed for a variety of community based private or public projects - from infrastructure projects to where to put a daycare center. The project benefiting from CAG formation does not make it more or less "official." The VB-I70 CAG falls into this category - community members who are staying organized to discuss issues in their community.

CDPHE is more than willing to support the CAG in terms of helping you acquire documents and information you can't find, being a point of reference for the history of the area, explain how we interpret data and where it comes/came from, and many other types of information to help communities.

However, because none of the agencies provide operational support to your CAG, we cannot maintain a CDPHE sponsored web-based platform to post CAG business items such as minutes, independent findings/reports/videos.

Any incorporated (non-profit, 501.c.3, etc) can apply for a TAG from EPA. There is considerable overlap in Superfund CAGs and groups that have been awarded TAGs, as in the case of Lowry Landfill Superfund Site CAG. The TAG that was awarded at Lowry Landfill is not managed by the entire Lowry Landfill CAG. In fact, a subset of Lowry Landfill CAG community members organized, shared the expense and paperwork to become registered in the state of Colorado as a non-profit, and applied for and was awarded a TAG. The state of Colorado does not post documents from the Lowry Landfill TAG on the state's website.

I hope this helps.

Jeannine

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